

February 22, 2005

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22313

ATTN: Harold E. Dodds, Jr.  
RE: Application No. 09/755,286

Dear Mr. Dodds,

I have updated the application we discussed in our phone conversation of January 24<sup>th</sup> regarding patent application number 09/755,286:

1. Drawings are now separate.
2. I provided an abstract.
3. I inserted the text from the original claims 8 and 10 into claim 1.
4. I cancelled claims 8 and 10.
5. I made claims 9, 11, and 12 dependent on claim 1 (these are renumbered to 8, 9, and 10 respectively)
6. I added a colon after "steps of" in claim 15 (now renumbered to 13).
7. I replaced "according to claim 13" with "wherein a tree is constructed as a forest of trees".
8. I added text from claims 8 into independent claim 15, but claim 10 is applicable to linked lists rather than trees. The tree traversals in this particular context are more or less static (i.e. regular expression trees that a compiler might traverse after parsing has completed). However, I added sufficient information to indicate how additions to and deletions from the tree in the spirit of the cancelled claim 10 are accomplished.

Sincerely,